

§ 207.4

manner that would have complied with this part;

(ii) The transfer is not made to evade this part or part 221 of this chapter;

(iii) The amount of credit is not increased; and

(iv) The collateral for the credit is not changed.

(2) Any transfer between customers at the same lender shall be accompanied by a statement by the transferor customer describing the circumstances giving rise to the transfer and shall be accepted and signed by a duly authorized representative of the lender acting in good faith. The lender shall keep such statement with its records of the transferee account.

(3) When a transfer is made between lenders or between a lender and a bank, the transferee shall obtain a copy of the Form FR G-3 or Form FR U-1 originally filed with the transferor lender and retain the copy with its records of the transferee account. If no form was originally filed with the transferor, the transferee may accept in good faith a statement from the transferor describing the purpose of the loan and the collateral securing it.

(m) *Action for lender's protection.* Nothing in this part shall require a lender to waive or forego any lien, or prevent a lender from taking any action it deems necessary for its protection.

(n) *Mistakes in good faith.* A mistake in good faith in connection with the extension or maintenance of credit shall not be a violation of this part.

(o) *Annual Report.* Every registered lender shall, within 30 days following June 30 of every year, file Form FR G-4 (OMB control number 7100-0011).

(p) *Where to register and file applications and reports.* Registration statements, applications to terminate registration, and annual reports shall be filed with the Federal Reserve Bank of the district in which the principal office of the lender is located.

(q) *Lack of notice of NMS security designation.* Failure to treat an NMS security as a margin stock in connection with an extension of credit shall not be deemed a violation of this part if the designation is made between quarterly publications of the Board's List of OTC

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Margin Stocks and the lender does not have actual notice of the designation.

[48 FR 35071, Aug. 3, 1983, as amended at 49 FR 35758, Sept. 12, 1984; 56 FR 46111, Sept. 10, 1991]

§ 207.4 Credit to broker-dealers.

No lender shall extend or maintain credit secured, directly or indirectly, by any margin stock to a creditor who is subject to part 220 of this chapter except in the following circumstances:

(a) *Emergency Loans.* Credit extended in good faith reliance upon a certification from the customer that the credit is essential to meet emergency needs arising from exceptional circumstances. Any collateral for such credit shall have good faith loan value.

(b) *Capital Contribution Loans.* Credit that the Board has exempted by order upon a finding that the exemption is necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors, provided the Securities Investor Protection Corporation certifies to the Board that the exemption is appropriate.

§ 207.5 Employee stock option, purchase and ownership plans.

(a) *Plan-lender; eligible plan.* (1) Plan-lender means any corporation, (including a wholly-owned subsidiary, or a lender that is a thrift organization whose membership is limited to employees and former employees of the corporation, its subsidiaries or affiliates) that extends or maintains credit to finance the acquisition of margin stock of the corporation, its subsidiaries or affiliates under an eligible plan.

(2) *Eligible Plan.* An eligible plan means any employee stock option, purchase, or ownership plan adopted by a corporation and approved by its stockholders that provides for the purchase of margin stock of the corporation, its subsidiaries, or affiliates.

(b) *Credit to exercise rights under or finance an eligible plan.* (1) If a plan-lender extends or maintains credit under an eligible plan, any margin security that directly or indirectly secures that credit shall have good faith loan value.

(2) Credit extended under this section shall be treated separately from credit extended under any other section of

this part except §207.3 (a) and (o) of this part.

(c) *Credit to ESOPs.* A lender may extend and maintain purpose credit without regard to the provisions of this part, except for §§207.3(a) and 207.3(o), if such credit is extended to an employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) qualified under section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended (26 U.S.C. 401).

[48 FR 35071, Aug. 3, 1983, as amended at 50 FR 26355, June 26, 1985]

§207.6 Requirements for the List of OTC Margin Stocks.

(a) *Requirements for inclusion on the list.* Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section, an OTC margin stock shall meet the following requirements:

(1) Four or more dealers stand willing to, and do in fact, make a market in such stock and regularly submit bona fide bids and offers to an automated quotations system for their own accounts;

(2) The minimum average bid price of such stock, as determined by the Board, is at least \$5 per share;

(3) The stock is registered under section 12 of the Act, is issued by an insurance company subject to section 12(g)(2)(G) of the Act, is issued by a closed end investment management company subject to registration pursuant to section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-8), is an American Depositary Receipt (ADR) of a foreign issuer whose securities are registered under section 12 of the Act, or is a stock of an issuer required to file reports under section 15(d) of the Act;

(4) Daily quotations for both bid and asked prices for the stock are continuously available to the general public;

(5) The stock has been publicly traded for at least six months;

(6) The issuer has at least \$4 million of capital, surplus, and undivided profits;

(7) There are 400,000 or more shares of such security outstanding in addition to shares held beneficially by officers, directors or beneficial owners of more than 10 percent of the stock;

(8) There are 1,200 or more holders of record, as defined in SEC Rule 12g5-1 (17 CFR 240.12g5-1), of the stock who

are not officers, directors or beneficial owners of 10 percent or more of the stock, or the average daily trading volume of such a stock, as determined by the Board, is at least 500 shares; and

(9) The issuer or a predecessor in interest has been in existence for at least three years.

(b) *Requirements for continued inclusion on the list.* Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section, an OTC margin stock shall meet the following requirements:

(1) Three or more dealers stand willing to, and do in fact, make a market in such stock and regularly submit bona fide bids and offers to an automated quotations system for their own accounts;

(2) The minimum average bid price of such security, as determined by the Board, is at least \$2 per share;

(3) The security is registered as specified in paragraph (a)(3) of this section;

(4) Daily quotations for both bid and asked prices for the stock are continuously available to the general public;

(5) The issuer has at least \$1 million of capital, surplus, and undivided profits;

(6) There are 300,000 or more shares of such stock outstanding in addition to shares held beneficially by officers, directors, or beneficial owners of more than 10 percent of the stock; and

(7) There continue to be 800 or more holders of record, as defined in SEC Rule 12g5-1 (17 CFR 240.12g5-1), of the stock who are not officers, directors, or beneficial owners of 10 percent or more of the stock, or the average daily trading volume of such stock, as determined by the Board, is at least 300 shares.

(c) *Removal from the list of OTC margin stocks.* The Board shall periodically remove from the list any stock that:

(1) Ceases to exist or of which the issuer ceases to exist, or

(2) No longer substantially meet the provisions of paragraph (b) of this section or §207.2(k).

(d) *Discretionary authority of Board.* Without regard to the other paragraphs of this section, the Board may add to, or omit or remove from, the OTC margin stock list any equity security, if in the judgment of the Board, such action